

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 INR-05 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 ACDA-05 IO-10 CAB-02 COME-00 DOTE-00 EB-07

FAA-00 SAJ-01 SIL-01 LAB-04 /084 W

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R 201430Z DEC 74

FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7284

INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION US BERLIN

USMISSION NATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L ANKARA 9839

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, EAIR, GR,TU, GW, UK, FR, WB

SUBJ: BERLIN TURKISH WORKER FLIGHTS

REF: A. STATE 264753; B. ANKARA 9474 C. BONN 19360

USBERLIN 2311

1. SUMMARY: WE SUGGEST CLEAR UNDERSTANDING SHOULD PRECEDE ANY APPROACHES THAT ARE TO BE MADE TO GOT REGARDING TURKISH WORKER FLIGHTS FROM BERLIN.END SUMMARY.

2. REFERENCE TELEGRAMS DEAL WITH THREE DISTINCT, BUT RELATED, ISSUES REGARDING FLIGHTS OF TURKISH WORKERS FROM BERLIN TO TURKEY. THESE ARE

A. WHETHER ALLIED CHARTER CARRIERS WILL BE PERMITTED TO CARRY TURKISH WORKERS FROM BERLIN TO TURKEY DURING

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1975 AND, IF SO, WHETHER THEY WILL BE REQUIRED TO PAY

ROYALTY TO THY;

B. DESIRE OF FRG AND WEST BERLIN AUTHORITIES, SUPPORTED BY ALLIES, THAT ECONOMIC VIABILITY OF WEST BERLIN NOT BE IMPAIRED BY DIVERSION OF TRAFFIC TO AIRPORT IN EAST BERLIN AS UNDER CURRENT ARRANGEMENT FOR THY FLIGHTS (IN ABSENCE OF AUTHORIZATION AND FEASIBLE ARRANGEMENT FOR THY TO SERVE WEST BERLIN);

C. CLOSURE OF GREEK AIRSPACE TO OVERFLIGHTS TO TURKEY

3. REFERENCE (A) SUGGESTED APPROACH TO GREEKS AND TURKS LED BY FRG AND SUPPORTED BY ALLIED GOVERNMENTS SEEKING MEANS OF PERMITTING BERLIN-ISTANBUL CHARGER FLIGHTS TO OVERFLY GREEK AIRSPACE. THIS EMBASSY (REF B) CONCURRED IN SUCH AN APPROACH.

4. REFERENCES (C) REPORTS A UK SUGGESTION THAT THE JOINT APPROACH REGARDING THE AEGEAN AIRSPACE BE BROADENED TO INCLUDE REPRESENTATIONS REGARDING THE PROBLEM OF CHARTER FLIGHTS. REF (D) REPORTS PROPOSALS BY THE BERLIN SENAT FOR PUNITIVE ACTION AGAINST THY TO ENSURE THAT TURKISH WORKER FLIGHTS ORIGINATE AND TERMINATE IN WEST BERLIN. IN THIS CONNECTION SOME JOINT ACTION WAS ALSO PROPOSED.

5. EMBASSY ANKARA BELIEVES WE SHOULD HAVE CLEAR UNDERSTANDING ON PART OF ALL CONCERNED BEFORE ANY APPROACHES ARE MADE TO GOT REGARDING THESE THREE SEPARATE ISSUES CONCERNING TURKISH WORKER FLIGHTS.

FROM OUR POINT OF VIEW (REFERENCES A AND B), WE THINK THIS UNDERSTANDING DOES EXIST WITH REGARD TO AN APPROACH TO RESOLVING THE ISSUE OF THE AEGEAN FIR. WE WOULD LIKE TO HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO COMMENT ON THE SUBSTANCE AND MANNER OF THE APPROACH IF THE USG IS TO ASSOCIATE ITSELF WITH APPROACHES TO THE GOT REGARDING (A) AIR CHARTER OPERATIONS AND (B) PRESERVING THE VIABILITY OF WEST BERLIN. IN GENERAL, WE WOULD BE FAVORABLE TO ANY APPROACH BY U.S. IN CONCERT WITH FRG, UK, AND FRANCE TO ENSURE THAT U.S. (AND ALLIED) CARRIERS CONTINUE TO BE PERMITTED TO SHARE IN CARRYING TURKISH WORKERS TO AND FROM BERLIN. WE WOULD ALSO, CONFIDENTIAL

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IN GENERAL, CONCUR IN A FURTHER JOINT APPROACH IN SUPPORT OF ECONOMIC VIABILITY OF WEST BERLIN. HOWEVER, WE WOULD STRONGLY OPPOSE ANY PROPOSALS THAT USG ASSOCIATE ITSELF WITH PUNITIVE MEASURES AGAINST THY BEFORE WE HAVE HAD OPPORTUNITY TO CONSIDER CAREFULLY ALL FACTS. FURTHERMORE, IT MAY BE PREMATURE TO CONSIDER FORMAL JOINT APPROACH TO GOT ON THESE TWO LATTER ISSUES. WE NOTE FROM REF (D) (PARA 5) THAT PANAM HAS LESS CONCERN THAT ITS CHARTER OPERATIONS MAY BE CUT OFF BY GOT. WITH REGARD TO THY FLIGHTS

TO EAST BERLIN, WE BELIEVE WE SHOULD ALLOW TIME FOR THY TO TRY
TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF ITS NEW WEST BERLIN LANDING RIGHTS
BEFORE CONSIDERING ANY ACTION.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: GW, WB
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 20 DEC 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CunninFX
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974ANKARA09839
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: RR
Errors: n/a
Film Number: D740371-0063
From: ANKARA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19741282/dcudeaaa.tel
Line Count: 119
Locator: TEXT ON MICROFILM, TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: A.STATE 264753, B.ANKARA 9474 C. BONN 19360, 74 USBERLIN 2311
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CunninFX
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 10 APR 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <10 APR 2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <24 MAR 2003 by CunninFX>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CHANGED> rws 20020205
Subject: BERLIN TURKISH WORKER FLIGHTS
TAGS: MARR, EAIR, GR, TU, UK, FR
To: SECSTATE WASHDC ATHENS BERLIN BONN LONDON PARIS US BERLIN NATO
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005